

peculiar location indicate their expediency—whether by considerable or moderate expenditures, for railways, plank roads, or navigation. And this must and will at an early day, be done. A judicious and prudent policy would suggest that it be done gradually; not with over haste or with over caution, but with safe progress. Those sections of the State not now provided for instantly, should remember that it is hardly possible at once to do everything, for every quarter, that needs or ought to have aid; and those sections failing to be provided for at this session of the Assembly, must have their just claims recognized and granted at another; since the objections made to some local schemes, are based not upon any opposition to them, but upon a doubt as to the propriety of undertaking too much at once. It should be well remembered by these sections, however, that the day has now passed by when any anti-improvement people can receive the same consideration, at the halls of legislation, as those who are favorable to the policy adopted by the will of the people of the State; and when any section may desire just aid, it can always be best obtained by representatives left free to act in a spirit of general liberality, or better still, by such as are specially instructed to act in this spirit, according to the will of their constituents.

Your committee have said, that in their opinion, the proper policy of improvements is to carry out a general system. What other policy could with justice be adopted? Years since, the State gave her aid to two railroads, as is well known, in two sections of our territory. When, six years ago, the question came up on the North Carolina Railroad bill, its passage was claimed by the people of middle and western North Carolina as a right due to them. It was hardly conceded, and only carried by the patriotic and self-sacrificing course of a few bold men, and what has not this road done already! It has done enough to abundantly repay the investment, if there could be no other return, in arresting the life-flood of emigration that was desolating the State,